Sl.No.	State/UT	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
28.	Goa	482	244	98
29.	Gujarat	83	126	290
30.	Maharashtra	2564	2249	857
31.	Chhattisgarh	139	216	08
32.	Madhya Pradesh	1049	703	1041
33.	Uttaranchal	269	375	1106
34.	Uttar Pradesh	1863	1677	2134
	TOTAL:	20767	21024	24747

REGP in Tamil Nadu

2212. SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have set up any agro-rural industries in Tamil Nadu under Rural Employment Generation Programme during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the fund allocation;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to further promote these sectors in Tamil Nadu?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) to (c) The Government of India does not set up units under the Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP). However, to promote village industries, including agro-rural industries, the Government has been implementing the REGP through the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) throughout the country, including Tamil Nadu. Under this programme, an entrepreneur can establish projects by availing of margin money assistance from the KVIC and loan from public sector scheduled commercial banks, selected regional rural banks and cooperative banks, etc., for projects with a maximum cost of Rs. 25 lakh. The permissible margin money assistance is given in the table below:

Margin Money Assistance under REGP

Sl. No.	Category of beneficiary	Project Cost	Margin Money Assistance
1.	General	Upto Rs. 10 lakh	25 per cent of project cost
		Rs. 10 lakh and Upto Rs. 25 lakh	2.5 lakhs plus 10 per cent of balance project cost.
2.	SC/ST/Women/Ex-servicemen/	Upto Rs. 10 lakh	30 per cent of project cost.
	NE region	Rs. 10 lakh and upto Rs. 25 lakh	Rs. 3 lakh plus 10 per cent of balance project cost.

Note : SC/ST-Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe; NE-North Eastern

The details of projects set up under REGP in the State of Tamil Nadu and margin money assistance utilized during the last three years are as under:

Year	Number of Projects	Employment generated (Number of persons)	Margin money utilized (Rs. lakh)
2001-02	596	11011	567.34
2002-03	764	11017	604.07
2003-04	1568	24028	1362.17

(d) During 2004-05, the targeted number of additional employment opportunities under REGP scheme in the State of Tamil Nadu is 19925, with margin money assistance of Rs. 1136 lakh. Further, for promotion of village industries including agro-rural industries, the Government provides the following support through the KVIC.

(i) Product Development Design Intervention and Packaging (PRODIP) Scheme—For improvement of design, quality and better packaging of products.

(ii) Rural Industry Service Centres (RISC) Scheme-For setting up Common Facility Centres to provide backward forward linkages and necessary services like raw material support, skill upgradation, quality control, testing facilities, market promotion, design and product development, etc.

(iii) Financial assistance for participating in exhibitions at national, zonal, state and district levels.

Cottage Industries in Bihar

†2213. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the cottage industries in the areas belonging to SCs/STs/most backward classes have to face host of problems in the State of Bihar;

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken in near future for the promotion of cottage industries;

(c) the number of small scale industries in Bihar at present, area-wise;

(d) whether Government have taken any initiative to boost up the setting up of small industrial units in the backward and tribal areas of Bihar; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Some of the cottage industries in the country, including those in Bihar, face problems like obsolete technology, low productivity, credit availability, quality of products, marketing, competition from substitute products, etc. To promote village industries including cottage industries the Government of India through the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) has been implementing the Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP) in rural areas throughout the country, including Bihar. Under this programme, an entrepreneur can establish a village industry including cottage industries by availing of margin money assistance from the KVIC and loan from public sector scheduled commercial banks, selected regional rural banks and cooperative banks, etc., for projects with a maximum cost of Rs. 25 lakhs. The pattern of margin money assistance is given in the table below and is more favourable to SC/ST/OBC:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.